74.

An Excellent new Ballad,

INTITULED

King WILLIAM And his Forrester,

To its own proper Tune.

YOU Subjects of *Britain* come liften a while,
Here is a new Ditty will make you to ſmile.
It is of the King and the Keeper alſo,
Who met in the Forreſt but lately ago.

O early, O early, into a Morning,
King *William* roſe early into a Morning,
And a Gown of Gray Ruſſet King *William* put on,
As tho' he had been ſome ſilly poor Man.

The Hounds were made ready prepar'd for the
The Nobles attended of Honour and Fame, (Game,
But like a mean Subject in humble Array,
His own Forreſt was taking his Way.

Then beſpoke *Mary* our moſt Royal Queen,
My gracious King *William*, where are you going?
Anſwer'd her quickly, I count him no Man
That calleth his Council unto a Woman,

The Queen with a modeſt Behaviour reply'd,
I wiſh that Kind Providence may be thy Guide,
To keep thee from Danger my ſoveraign Lord,
The which will the greateſt of Comfort afford.

He went to the Forreſt ſome pleaſure to ſpy,
The gray Hound ran ſwift and the Keeper drew nigh,
Who cry'd you bold Fellow how dare you come here,
Without the King's Leave to chaſe his fair Deer.

Here are my three Hounds, I'll give them to you,
And likewiſe my Hauks they're as good as e're flew,
Beſides I will give thee full Forty Shillings,
If you will not betray me to *William* our King.

All that I have offer'd I pray thee now take,
And do thy Endeavour my Peace for to make,
And Forty Shillings I'll give thee a Ring,
If you will not diſcloſe me to *William* your King.

Your three Hounds I'll tell you I never will take,
Nor yet your three Hauks your Peace for to make,
For with I be bribed with Money and Ring,
But I will diſcloſe you to *William* our King.

As I'm a true Keeper I'll not be unjuſt,
For a Gold Ring will I forfeit my Truſt,
I'll bring you before him as ſure as a Gun,
And there you ſhall anſwer for what you have done.

Thou art a bold Fellow King *William* re
How doſt thou not ſee the Star at my Side,
The Forreſt is mine I'll let thee to know,
Then what is the Reaſon you threaten me ſo.

With that the bold Keeper fell down on his
A trembling Fear his Spirit did ſeize,
The Picture of Death did appear in his Fa
He knew not at firſt the King was in Pl

O pardon, O pardon. my Soveraign Lo
For your Royal Pardon I humbly beſeech,
Alas! my poor Heart in my Breaſt it is cold
O let me not ſuffer for being ſo bold.

Get up honeſt Keeper and ſhake off thy
In thee there is nothing of Folly appears;
O that every one were as faithful as ye,
O what a bleſt Prince King *William* would be.

Becauſe I encourage ſuch Perſons as you,
I'll make you my Ranger; if that you will
I'll make the a Captain by Sea or by Land,
And high in my Favour thou ever ſhalt ſtand.

The Keeper reply'd, My Soveraign Lo
Sure I am not worthy of ſuch a Reward;
Yet nevertheleſs your true Keeper I'll be,
Becauſe I'm afraid to venture by Sea,

With that the King laught, till his Sides he
And threw him down Fifty brave Guine
And bad him haſte to the *Kinſington* Co
Where of this true Jeſt he would make ſome

And when you come hither ſee you aſk f
Who wears a Pagenet of Gold at his Back
Likewiſe a great Faſon of Gold at his right S
For he's a true Man you may him believe;

He's one of the Porters that ſtands at my G
To let in my Nobles both early and late;
And therefore good Fellow come up with
I'll make thee my Ranger of Parks far and

FINIS.

1690-94.